

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 3, 2003 has been carefully reviewed. Claims 1-16 are pending in this patent application. By this amendment, claims 1-6 have been canceled, claims 7 and 13 has been amended, and claims 17-24 have been added. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Walter (U.S. Patent No. 6,325,290). Claims 1, 2, and 6 have been canceled, and claims 7 and 13 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. A version with markings showing changes made to claims 7 and 13 is included herewith as "Attachment". Reconsideration of claims 7, 8, 12, and 13 is respectfully requested.

Discussion Regarding Patentability of Claim 7

Claim 7, as amended, recites the following limitation:

said kiosk being operative in a first mode wherein said scanner reads bar codes when it is detached from said housing, and in a second mode wherein said scanner reads bar codes when it is fixed relative to said housing.

In contrast, Walter does not disclose that its removable scanner 16 reads bar codes when it is fixed relative to the housing. Indeed, it appears from viewing Fig. 1, that the scanner 16 is facing the wrong way so as to be unable to read bar codes when located within holder 44. Rather, when the removable

scanner 16 is located in the holder 44, another scanner (i.e. the stationary scanner 14) reads bar codes. (See, e.g., Walter at column 4, lines 46-51.)

It is axiomatic that anticipation of a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is proper only if the prior art reference discloses each and every element of the claim. Since Walter does not disclose each and every element of claim 7, Walter does not anticipate claim 7, as amended.

Discussion Regarding Patentability of Claims 8 and 12

Each of claims 8 and 12 depends directly from claim 7. As a result, each of claims 8 and 12 is allowable for, at least, the reasons hereinbefore discussed with regard to claim 7.

Discussion Regarding Patentability of Independent Claim 13

The discussion relating to the patentability of independent claim 7 is relevant to the patentability of independent claim 13. As a result, claim 13 is allowable over the cited art. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection to claim 13 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Walter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,325,290) in view of Bontly (U.S. Patent No. 6,412,698). Claims 5, 11, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Walter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,325,290) in view of Pellaumail et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,409,086). Claims 3-5 have been canceled. Reconsideration of claims 9-11 and 14-16 is respectfully requested.

Discussion Regarding Patentability of Claims 9-11

Each of claims 9-11 depends directly or indirectly from claim 7. As a result, each of claims 9-11 is allowable for, at least, the reasons hereinbefore discussed with regard to claim 7.

Discussion Regarding Patentability of Claims 14-16

Each of claims 14-16 depends directly or indirectly from claim 13. As a result, each of claims 14-16 is allowable for, at least, the reasons hereinbefore discussed with regard to claim 13.

New Added Claims 17-24

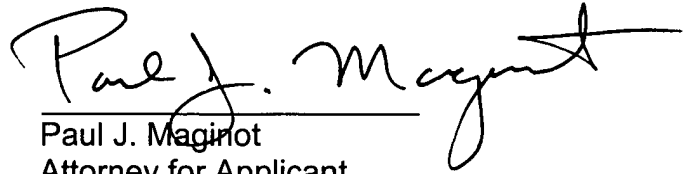
Claims 17-24 have been added. Each of these claims recites limitations that are novel and nonobvious over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Action to that end is hereby solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul J. Maginot", with a horizontal line underneath it.

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Attachment

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made to Claims 7 and 13

In the Claims

Please amend claims 7 and 13 as follows:

7. (Amended) A kiosk comprising:

a housing;

a processor disposed within said housing;

a display supported by said housing and in communication with said processor; and

a scanner detachably mounted to said housing and in communication with said processor,

said kiosk being operative in a first mode wherein said scanner reads bar codes when it is detached from said housing, and in a second mode wherein said scanner reads bar codes when it is fixed relative to said housing.

13. (Amended) A kiosk comprising:

- a first housing;
- processing circuitry disposed within said first housing;
- a touch-screen display supported by said first housing and in communication with said processing circuitry;
- a second housing detachably coupled to said first housing; and
- a scanner disposed in said second housing and in communication with said processing circuitry;

said scanner being operative to read bar codes in both an attached and a detached mode.